**UNITED NATIONS** **A**

General Assembly

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A/RES/50/104
9 February 1996

Fiftieth session
Agenda item 95 (f)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/50/617/Add.6)]

50/104. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 40/204 of 17 December 1985, 42/178 of 11 December 1987 and 44/171 of 19 December 1989, as well as all other relevant Assembly resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the integration of women in development,

Bearing in mind the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and other recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to economic activities and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas, such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries have resulted in the rapid feminization of poverty, especially in rural areas and in female-headed households,

Aware that the continued discrimination against women, their continued lack of equal access to education and training, and their lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full contribution to, and opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in many developing countries,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. Welcomes the adoption of the Beijing Declaration 1/ and Platform for Action 2/ by the Fourth World Conference on Women;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development; 3/

3. Calls for the urgent implementation of the Platform for Action adopted at Beijing as well as the relevant provisions contained in the outcome of all other major United Nations conferences and summits;

4. Stresses that a favourable and conducive international and national economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

5. Also stresses the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

6. Calls upon all Governments and all actors of society to implement the commitment made in Beijing to create an enabling environment through, inter alia, removing discriminatory barriers and ensuring the full and equal participation of women in economic activities through, inter alia, the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legal measures and the provision of other necessary structures;

7. Urges all Governments to ensure women's equal rights and access to economic resources, and to increase women's access to credit by instituting innovative lending practices, including practices that integrate credit with services and training for women, and that provide flexible credit facilities to women, in particular rural women, women in the informal sector, young women and women who lack access to traditional sources of collateral;

8. Urges Governments to develop and promote methodologies for incorporating a gender perspective into all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

9. Calls upon the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes and specialized agencies, and all other relevant organizations to promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming gender perspective in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes;

10. Urges the international community, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to give priority to assisting developing

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1/ A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

2/ Ibid., annex II.

3/ A/50/399.

countries' efforts to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies, including through increased access to health care, capital, education, training and technology, as well as by women's wider participation in decision-making;

11. Urges multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies in support of national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

12. Requests the United Nations development system to work towards establishing a more coherent approach to its support for women's income-generating activities, in particular credit schemes;

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session a sub-item entitled "Effective mobilization and integration of women in development";

14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on action taken to implement the present resolution.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/50/617/Add.7)]

50/105. Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 46/143 of 17 December 1991 and 45/191 of 21 December 1990, as well as its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Reaffirming that people are central to all activities related to development and that human resources development is an essential means of achieving sustainable development goals,

Recognizing that human resources development should contribute to total human development, which enlarges the choices available to people in developing their lives and fulfilling their aspirations, and that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies for human development that mainstreams a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women,

Stressing that there is need for a supportive and favourable international economic environment that will enhance human development in developing countries and promote economic growth and development,

Recognizing that, while economic reforms and structural adjustment programmes are intended to promote economic growth and development, elements of such programmes may have an adverse impact on human resources development, and also that there is a need to take action, in the formulation and implementation of these programmes, to mitigate any negative effects,

Stressing the need for adequate resources to enhance the capacity of Governments of developing countries to promote human resources development in pursuit of their national programmes, plans and strategies for development,

Stressing also that Governments of developing countries have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development,

Recognizing the vital role that South-South and North-South cooperation play in supporting national efforts in human resources development, bilaterally as well as multilaterally,

Emphasizing the need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

Recognizing the importance accorded in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development to the human component of development, 1/

Recognizing also the importance of the Platform for Action adopted at the recently concluded Fourth World Conference on Women, 2/ held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on developing human resources for development; 3/

2. Emphasizes that, in the development of human resources, an overall, well-conceived and integrated approach that mainstreams a gender perspective and takes into account the needs of all people should be adopted, incorporating such vital areas as population, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, communications, education and training, and science and technology, as well as taking into account the need to create more opportunities for employment in an environment that guarantees opportunities for political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

3. Encourages all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

4. Emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

5. Calls upon the international community to support national efforts to develop human resources for development by increasing the priority of resources for those activities;

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1/ See A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1.

2/ A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

3/ A/50/330 and Corr.1.

6. Calls upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to ensure the coordination of activities in support of national and regional action in the area of human resources development;

7. Emphasizes that structural adjustment programmes should include social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the promotion of full and productive employment, and the enhancement of social integration;

8. Also emphasizes that Governments and relevant institutions should ensure, where appropriate, an adequate social safety net under structural adjustment programmes and should develop policies to reduce the negative effects of these programmes and to improve their positive impact, bearing in mind that social safety nets associated with economic restructuring are short-term by nature and should be considered as complementary strategies;

9. Acknowledges the action taken thus far by the United Nations system in operational activities in the area of human resources development, and urges further action in accordance with resolutions of the General Assembly on human resources for development;

10. Notes with serious concern the worrisome trend of a decrease in overall development assistance, which affects the level of resources for human resources development, and emphasizes that financial commitment to human resources development is of critical importance in contributing to the enhancement of the concept of people-centred sustainable development;

11. Calls for follow-up action to be taken as recommended in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and in the Platform for Action adopted at Beijing, in order to ensure the strengthening of human resources development;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to take into account the outcome of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in the context of human resources development;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the activities of the United Nations system in human resources development and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including further action taken by the United Nations system with regard to human resources development and the enhancement of inter-agency coordination;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", a sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/50/617/Add.8)]

50/106. Business and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 48/180 of 21 December 1993,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning policies and activities related to entrepreneurship, privatization, demonopolization and administrative deregulation, 1/

Also taking note of chapter VI of the World Economic and Social Survey, 1995, 2/

Further taking note of the report of the Committee on an International Agreement on Illicit Payments on its first and second sessions, 3/ the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on efforts by the United Nations to address the issue of corrupt practices 4/ and work undertaken in other international forums on the issue of corrupt practices,

Looking forward to the review by the Economic and Social Council of the report of the Twelfth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Development,

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1/ A/50/417.

2/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.II.C.1.

3/ E/1979/104.

4/ See E/1991/31/Add.1.

Aware of the need to increase private-sector involvement in the provision of infrastructure services, inter alia, through joint ventures between public and private entities, particularly in countries with economies in transition, while protecting essential services and safeguarding the environment,

Recognizing the important role of Governments in creating, through transparent and participatory processes, an enabling environment supportive of entrepreneurship and facilitative of privatization, in particular in establishing the judicial, executive and legislative frameworks necessary for a market-based exchange of goods and services and for good management, 5/

Taking note of the World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime (Naples, 21-23 November 1994 and Buenos Aires, November 1995), and of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (Cairo, 29 April-8 May 1995), in particular the consideration by those conferences of the issue of illicit payments in international business transactions,

Acknowledging the need for international cooperation to deal with the problem of illicit payments in international business transactions, such as in the ongoing work of the United Nations on its draft international agreement on illicit payments, 6/ so as to promote accountability and a stable and predictable international business environment, and acknowledging further that international efforts in that field require the cooperation of all countries concerned,

1. Values the promotion of entrepreneurship in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and industries by various actors throughout civil society, and of privatization, demonopolization and the simplification of administrative procedures;

2. Invites Member States, requests the Secretary-General and calls upon and encourages the relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to foster active participation in support of entrepreneurship, privatization, demonopolization and the simplification of administrative procedures, as described in General Assembly resolution 48/180;

3. Also invites Member States, requests the Secretary-General and calls upon and encourages the relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in their respective activities for the provision of infrastructure services, to encourage private-sector cost-effective involvement in the efficient construction, use and maintenance of infrastructure;

4. Looks forward to its resumed session in March and April 1996, during which it will examine public administration and development, and address the issues contained in its agenda, including the role of public administration in promoting partnership for development;

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5/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A, paras. 27 and 28.

6/ See E/1991/31/Add.1 and E/AC.67/L.3/Add.1.

5. Welcomes the continuation of work on illicit payments in relevant international forums, including the United Nations, taking account of progress already achieved on that issue;

6. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session of 1996, consider the appropriate time-frame and procedure for the continuation of the work with a view to completing the draft international agreement on illicit payments, including consideration of the draft at the substantive session of 1996 of the Council, and recommends that the Council report to the Assembly at its fifty-first session;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session, under the item "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", a sub-item entitled "Business and development".

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995